

# A Salem Tea Party

SUGGESTED LEARNING STRATEGIES: Previewing, Role Playing, Notetaking, Diffusing, Graphic Organizer, Skimming /Scanning, Predicting, Discussion Groups

1. To prepare for this drama game, practice delivering one of the following lines assigned by your teacher.

**Character: Reverend Parris**

**Line 1:** You will confess yourself or I will take you out and whip you to your death, Tituba!

**Line 2:** How can it be the Devil? Why would he choose my house to strike? We have all manner of licentious people in the village!

**Line 3:** Rebecca, Rebecca, go to her, we're lost. She suddenly cannot bear to hear the Lord's—

**Character: Tituba**

**Line 1:** And I say, "You lie, Devil, you lie!" And then he come one stormy night to me, and he say, "Look! I have white people belong to me. And I look—and there was Goody Good."

**Line 2:** Mister Reverend, I do believe somebody else be witchin' these children.

**Line 3:** No, no, don't hang Tituba! I tell him I don't desire to work for him, sir.

**Character: Reverend Hale**

**Line 1:** Now let me instruct you. We cannot look to superstition in this. The Devil is precise; the marks of his presence are definite as stone.

**Line 2:** We shall need hard study if it comes to tracking down the Old Boy.

**Line 3:** You must have no fear to tell us who they are, do you understand? We will protect you. The Devil can never overcome a minister. You know that, do you not?

**Character: Giles Corey**

**Line 1:** Mr. Hale, I have always wanted to ask a learned man—what signifies the readin' of strange books?

**Line 2:** A fart on Thomas Putnam, that is what I say to that!

**Line 3:** I will not give you no name. I mentioned my wife's name once and I'll burn in hell long enough for that. I stand mute.

**Character: Rebecca Nurse**

**Line 1:** Goody Ann! You sent a child to conjure up the dead?

**Line 2:** This will set us all to arguin' again in the society, and we thought to have peace this year.

**Line 3:** I fear it, I fear it. Let us rather blame ourselves and—

**Character: John Proctor**

**Line 1:** Can you speak one minute without we land in Hell again? I am sick of Hell.

**Line 2:** I come to see what mischief your uncle's brewin' now. Put it out of mind, Abby.

**Line 3:** Ah, you're wicked yet, aren't y'!

**Character: Abigail Williams**

**Line 1:** I never sold myself! I'm a good girl! I'm a proper girl!

**Line 2:** My name is good in the village! I will not have it said my name is soiled! Goody Proctor is a gossiping liar!

**Line 3:** I danced for the Devil; I saw him; I wrote in his book.

**Character: John Putnam**

**Line 1:** ...Mr. Hale. We look to you to come to our house and save our child.

**Line 2:** Why, we are surely gone wild this year. What anarchy is this? That tract is in my bounds, it's in my bounds, Mr. Proctor.

**Line 3:** That is a notorious sign of witchcraft afoot, Goody Nurse, a prodigious sign!

2. After the tea party, meet together with others who were assigned your same character. Compare information, and make inferences about your character based on the quotes you have been given. Then, read the commentary sections in Act One that pertain to your character, and try to find specific details about your character. Use the Character Notetaking Chart on the next page to take notes on your character, writing down words and descriptions from the text that indicate Miller's attitude toward that character.

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3. Next, work with your new discussion groups to determine what you know about the relationships among all of the tea party characters. Given what you already know about the Salem Witch Trials, make predictions about what might happen to some of these characters. Add these predictions to the graphic organizer. Return to this chart at various times in your reading to update or change your responses.

## Character Notetaking Chart

<p><b><u>Reverend Parris</u></b></p> <p><b>Notes:</b></p>   <p><b>Motivations:</b></p>	<p><b><u>Predictions:</u></b></p>      
<p><b><u>Tituba</u></b></p> <p><b>Notes:</b></p>   <p><b>Motivations:</b></p>	<p><b><u>Predictions:</u></b></p>      
<p><b><u>Abigail</u></b></p> <p><b>Notes:</b></p>   <p><b>Motivations:</b></p>	<p><b><u>Predictions:</u></b></p>      
<p><b><u>Mr. Putnam</u></b></p> <p><b>Notes:</b></p>   <p><b>Motivations:</b></p>	<p><b><u>Predictions:</u></b></p>      

**John Proctor:**

**Notes:**

**Motivations:**

**Predictions:**

**Francis and Rebecca Nurse**

**Notes:**

**Motivations:**

**Predictions:**

**Reverend Hale**

**Notes:**

**Motivations:**

**Predictions:**

**Giles Corey:** pgs. 40–41, sixth commentary section

**Notes:**

**Motivations:**

**Predictions:**